



HIKING – FOREST SERVICE – ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL FOREST – San Juan RANGER DISTRICT - Columbine
Updated: February, 2003



COAL CREEK TRAIL #677

Length: 3.0 miles (4.8 km.)

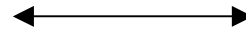
Use: Medium

Difficulty: More difficult

USGS Map (s): Engineer Mountain

Recommended Season

Spring Summer Fall Winter



Starting Elevation: 10,200'

Trailhead off of U.S. 550

Ending Elevation: 11,600'

Junction with Engineer Mountain Trail

Recommended Season: Spring/Summer/Fall



Access #1: Take U.S. 550 for approximately 37 miles north of Durango. Park in the dirt pullout just past the first hairpin turn after Coal Bank Pass. The trail leads uphill from the north side of the road. A sign marks the Coal Creek trailhead.

Access # 2: Access to this trail is also available from the Engineer Mountain Trail. Please see the complete description of this trail and its access points.

Attractions &

Considerations: The Coal Creek Trail climbs up through fairly steep terrain, passing through a predominantly coniferous forest. There are occasional breaks in the trees that offer scenic views of the West

Needles. The last section of the trail is blaze-posted to make it visible as it crosses swampy terrain. The trail never comes close to Coal Creek. All water obtained in the area should be purified, to prevent problems with Giardia. The Coal Creek Trail offers several possibilities for doing loop hikes, using other trails in the same area.



Scan of the San Juan National Forest Map
Forest Service Maps and other publications available at the Public Lands Center in the Durango Tech Center, ½ mile west of Durango off of Highway 160 or by calling 970-247-4874.
www.sjma.org